



WHEELING UNIVERSITY

Classnotes

We invite you to send updates and information to share with the Wheeling University family. Please feel free to email alumni@wheeling.edu with any news.

Class of 1970

Dr. Ed Younkens, Professor Accountancy at Wheeling University, recently published a new essay "Is Character Education Compatible with Individualistic Perfectionism?" To read it [click here](#).

Class of 1976

Fred Salancy is the Director of Philanthropic Strategy at the Knight of Columbus Charitable Fund in Washington, D.C.

Class of 1977

Father William Matheny, Jr., retired from the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in June after 30 years of service. He plans to work in a parish in Georgia.

Class of 1980

John Lewis has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh Minority Business Accelerator.

Class of 1988

Meave Connelly is a Vice President at US Bank.

Beth Currence started a new position as a molecular imaging specialist at WVU Medicine.

Stephen Simpkins started a new position as a Senior Account Executive with INWSolutions.

Class of 1994

Cassie Foster has been promoted to an Associate Professor of Biology at Allegany College of Maryland.

Class of 1995

John Reasbeck is Vice President, Community and Ambulatory Services, Administration at UPMC.

Class of 1996

John Buch started a new position as Client Director at ServiceNow.

Class of 1997

Angela (Pannell) Strickland is the Dean of Health Sciences at Guilford Technical Community College.

Class of 1998

Liz Gorman was awarded Surgical Services Nurse of the year in May of 2025 at Luminis Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis, MD. She also received advanced certification as a Meditation Teacher.

Alison Johnson is the Head of Content and Program Strategy at National Multifamily Housing Council.

Sharel O'Connell is the Service Management Consulting Manager at Capgemini.

Class of 1999

Lena Previll is the Senior HR Manager at Greenville Utilities Commission.

Class of 2000

Michael Traubert was elected to the Brooke County (WV) Board of Education. His four-year term began on July 1.

Class of 2001

Rev. Paul Abernathy is the Chief Executive Officer at Neighborhood Resilience Project.

Jacob Caddy began a new position as a Senior Product Engineer at Oomnitza.

Stacey Copley has a new position as Imaging Manager at Bon Secours Mercy Health.

Mark Jennings has been named Director – Senior Vice President – Institutional Sales at ApexInvest Markets.

Class of 2002

Paul (PJ) Blackburn recently started a new position as a Risk and Monitoring Analyst at Coinbase.

Stephanie Hockenberry is a Senior Account Manager at Lowes in the Wheeling market. She will continue to assist Ohio County Development Authority on a limited basis.

Anne Laux is the Field Training Compliance Officer at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission.

Class of 2004

Jeanine Vignjevic-Godbolt has a new position as a Physical Therapy Assistant at Carolina Spine and Disc Center.

Class of 2005

Tim Haught is the director, Administrative Services at Opensity Solutions.

Erica Tamburin was named City Manager for the City of Wellsburg (WV).

Class of 2006

Eric Ferguson is a Sales Representative with Siemens in Pittsburgh.

Pete Harlan has been selected for Merge Combinator's Missionized Tech Residency, in partnership with the US Army. Acquisition professionals are embedded for six months and will work inside Merge Combinator alongside 80+ companies building against real national security problems. Read more at <https://mergecombinator.com/programs/residency>

Eric Mena is a senior accountant with Langeloth Metallurgical Co. in Burgettstown, PA.

Class of 2007

Gretchen Krumdieck is the Director of Annual Giving and Constituent Development at St. Ursula Academy in Cincinnati.

Dennis McKenna was recently named a partner at Ernst & Young in San Diego.

Julie (Miner) White is a Senior Consultant with Deloitte in the company's Mechanicsburg, PA office.

Class of 2008

Nate Skrzypek was named principal at Wheeling Middle School in Wheeling.

Class of 2012

Peter Brogdon, II is a trial attorney in Atlanta, Georgia.

Tyler Glover is an outside sales representative for Palmer-Donavin.

Class of 2013

Patrick Chadowski is a data and analytics consultant with Erie Insurance.

Tyler Menzler started a new position with GPA Midstream Association.

Class of 2014

Justin Amos, is the Director of Land Services for Environmental Resources Management.

Emily Hatfield is VP of Marketing and Communications at VisitPittsburgh.

Jessie Vilkfsky has been named the Head of Football Operations at Bay FC.

Class of 2015

Brennan Comfort is Senior Vice President, Chief Data & Analytic Officer at WesBanco in Morgantown.

Miranda (Principe) Rockhold is a Risk Management Senior Specialist with American Honda Motor Co. in Marysville, Ohio

Class of 2016

Rachel Keeney is Executive Director of Top of West Virginia Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Nicole Kryston was promoted to President of Property Maintenance Services, Inc.

Sarah Sleevi is the Program Director at Female Strong.

Class of 2017

Michael Gromacki is a Network Specialist at UPMC.

Giovanna Loccisano is the Owner of County Line Sphynx Cattery, which specializes in TICA/CFA Canadian Sphynx cats. She is also the Owner/Artist at Foxfire & Co. Additionally, she is the Vice President of Operations for Top Shot Drilling, LLC which specializes in underground construction, telecommunications, and fiber optic installation.

Class of 2018

Garrett Emch has been promoted to Senior Market Intelligence at Jazz Pharmaceuticals.

Nikki Hillard is a Product Change Management Analyst at [HCA Healthcare](#).

Kristen Shimko will begin a new role at the University of Kentucky on May 18. She is the Prevention Specialist for Hazing, Alcohol and other Drugs, and Gambling.

Class of 2019

Jeremy Sagun, MBA, was named CEO of Northwood Health Services in Wheeling.

Class of 2020

Chelsey Ward is a Physician Assistant in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Charleston Area Medical Center.

Class of 2021

Jeff Simms, MBA, is the senior manager of technical training and operator qualification at Mountaineer Gas.

Class of 2024

Kelley Asbury, who works for Ashley Gardens Memory Care & Transitional Assisted Living, was the recipient of a 2026 Sunshine Excellence Award. She was named the Memory Care Life Enrichment Director of the Year.

Class of 2024

Chase Nolan was named Teacher of the Month at Edison Local Schools in Ohio.

Class of 2025

Mitchell Park is a police officer in Crossville, Tennessee.

Alumni Obituaries

Please keep these alumni and their loved ones in your prayers.

Mary Kay (Kociancic) Bossard, a member of the class of 1974, [passed away](#) on June 7
Tom Garcia, class of 1966, [passed away](#) June 11.

Mary Jones, former librarian at Wheeling University, [passed away](#) on June 5.

John Egan McAteer, class of 1961, [passed away](#) on June 11.

Linda Sue Noland, class of 1991, [passed away](#) on May 15

Sherry Lynne McClung Rawling, class of 2014, [passed away](#) on June 14.

Joseph P. Walton, class of 1970, [passed away](#) on May 25. He was married to Kathy Murtaugh Walton, class of 1970.